

(No Model.)

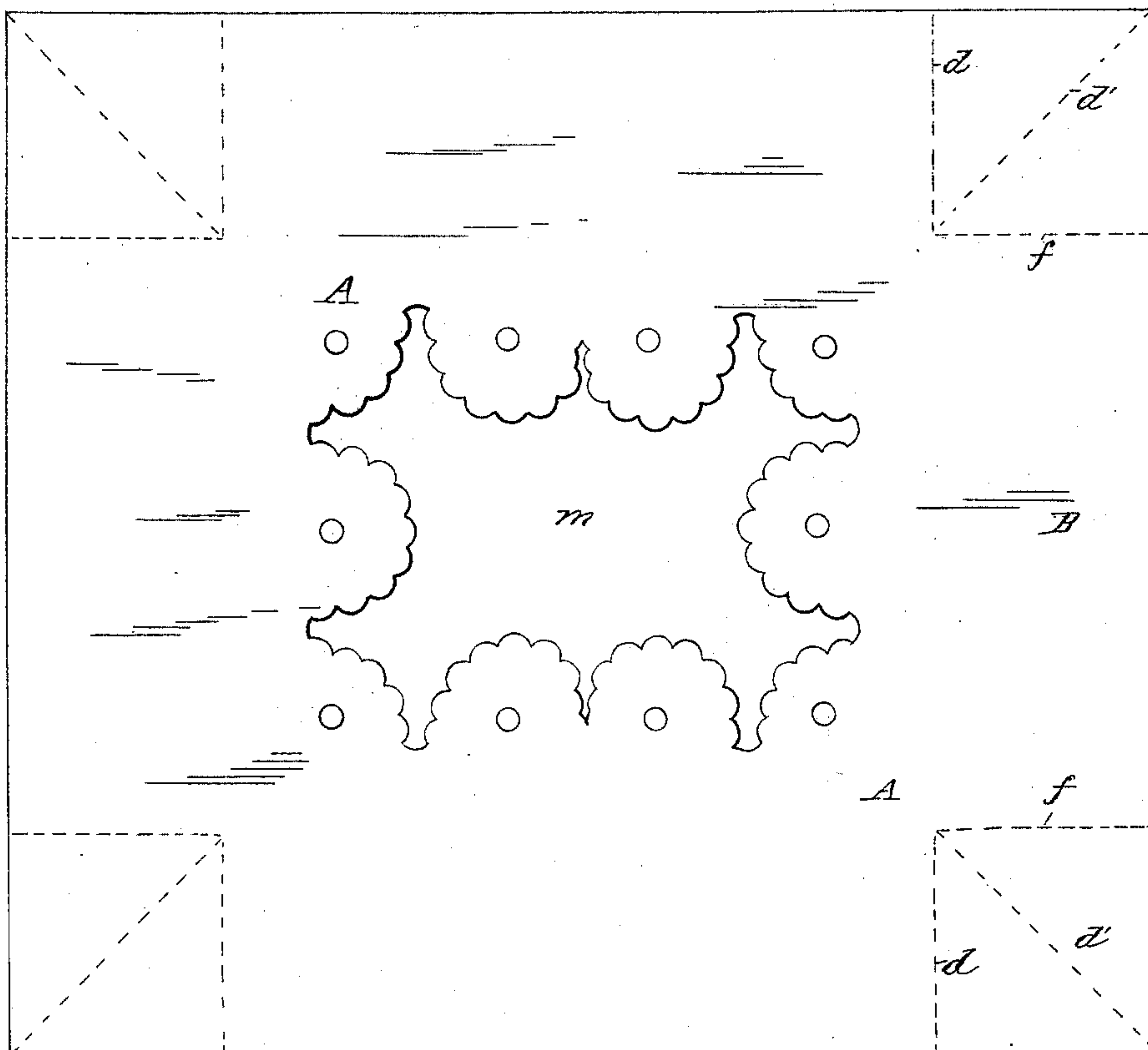
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. R. STOUT.  
LACE FOR CONFECTIONERS' USE.

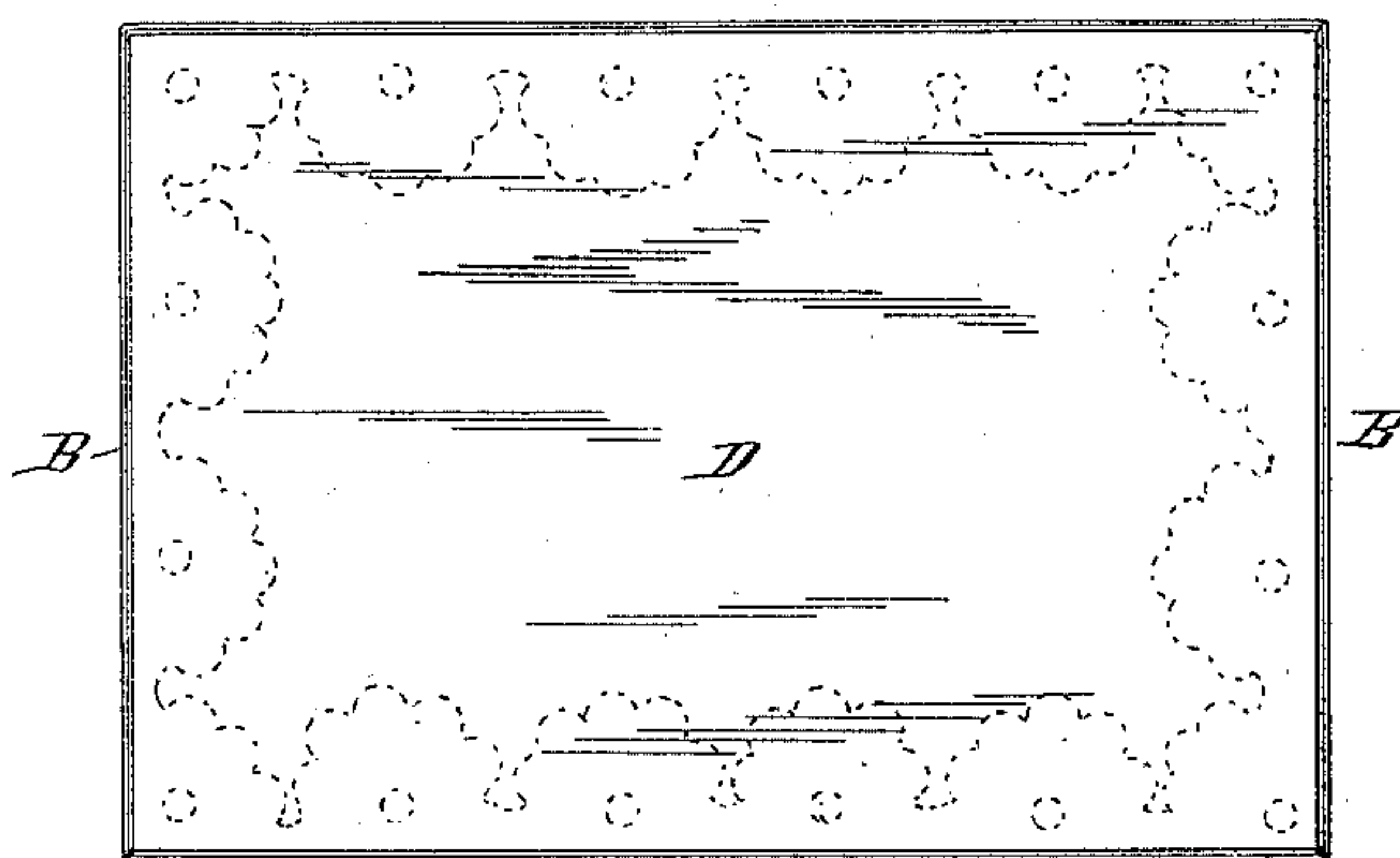
No. 397,446.

Patented Feb. 5, 1889.

*Fig 1.*



*Fig 2.*



WITNESSES:

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(No Model.)

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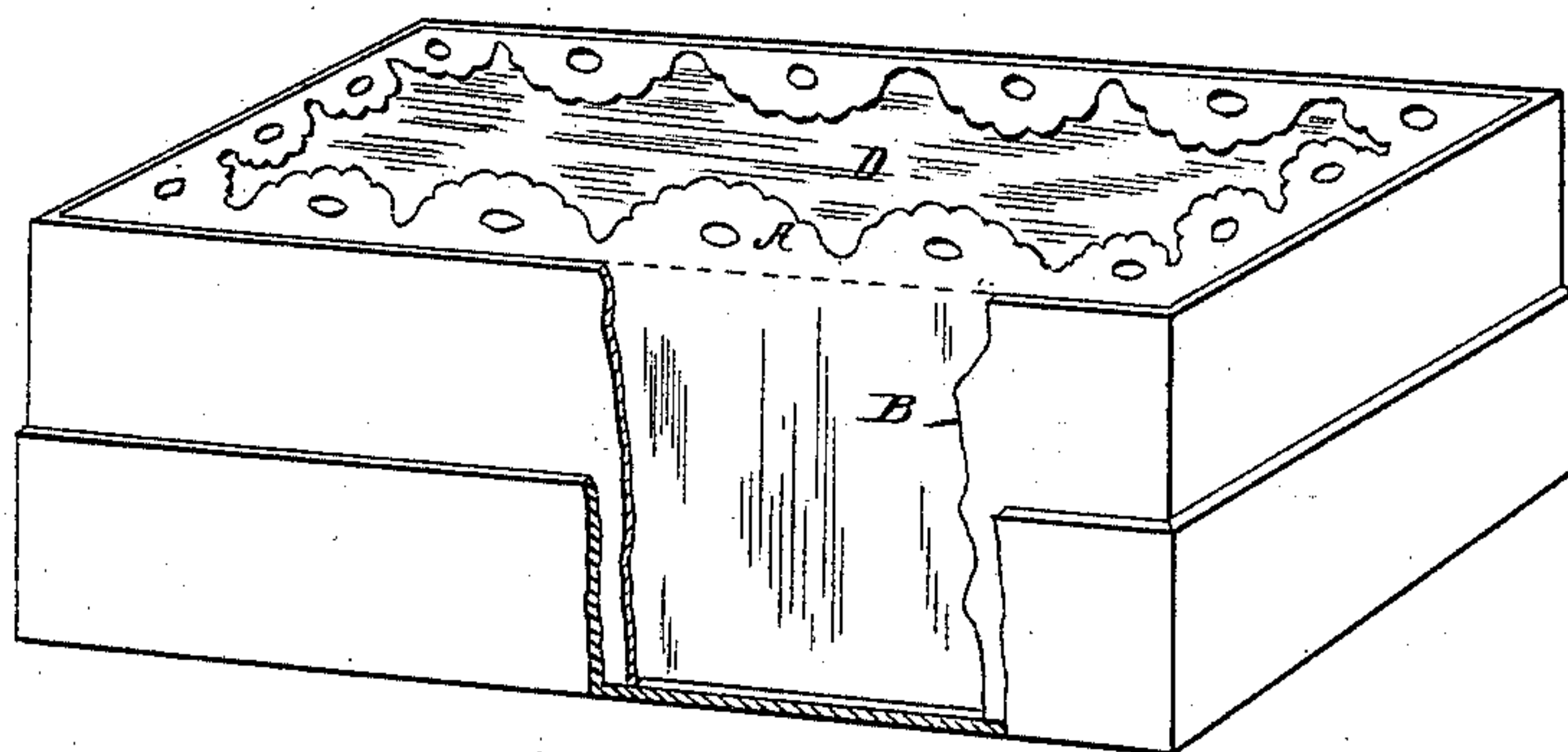


FIG. 3.

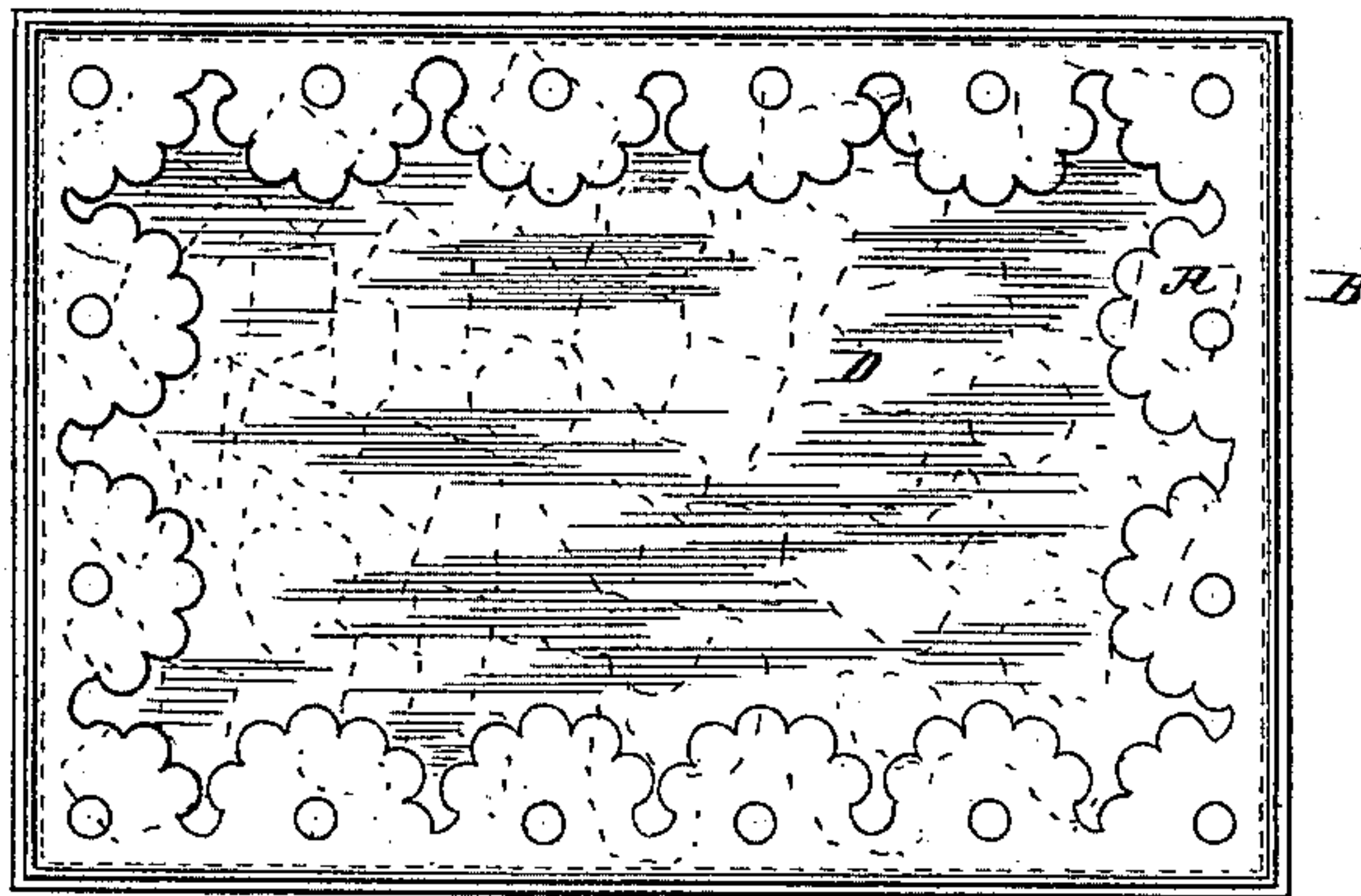


FIG. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. STOUT, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## LACE FOR CONFECTIONERS' USE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,446, dated February 5, 1889.

Application filed March 24, 1887. Serial No. 232,236. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN R. STOUT, of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful  
5 Improvements in Laces for Confectioners' Use, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

10 This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in laces and liners for boxes and packages for use of confectioners and others; and it consists of a combined continuous lace and liner of peculiar plan and  
15 construction, and in combination of the same with a box or package, as more fully herein-after described and claimed.

Technically the lace applied in boxes and packages is the edging or border or sheet of  
20 paper or like material introduced into the box or package and made to extend horizontally from the box sides and ends over or partly over the top of the box contents, and this lace, edging, or border may have a plain surface,  
25 or may have designs cut in it, or may be embossed or painted, or be printed; and the liner is that portion of the paper or like material which extends down against the sides and ends of the box or package, and either or both  
30 may be of plain paper, paper saturated with wax, paraffine, or other substances, or of tin-foil, or a combination of materials—as, for instance, cloth, or silk, or paper, or other suitable materials.

35 In a combined continuous lace and liner the liner portion may be of any width to correspond with boxes or packages of any depth; but if the liner portion were, say, one-half inch wide, while it would serve to completely  
40 line the sides and ends of a box of the same depth, it would not, if applied to a box of, say, six inches depth, be technically termed a "liner," as it would extend but partially down the box sides and ends, but would be technically called a "continuous lace;" and, on the  
45 other hand, a continuous lace and liner with, say, six inches wide liner part, could be so cut down that the liner part would be, say, one-half or one-quarter of an inch wide, so that it  
50 would be technically but a continuous lace with narrow plain outer edge when applied to a deep box or package through both lace

and liner when applied to a box or package one-half or one-quarter of an inch deep. In both cases, however, the article itself is  
55 the same. In consideration, therefore, of these possible technical constructions and of the fact that the article itself, though it is a combined continuous lace and liner, may in some instances be used simply as a lace,  
60 and as its application to or combination with a box or package determines its character in a technical sense, I shall describe and claim it herein both as a combined continuous lace and liner and as a continuous  
65 lace with border or edge, and in combination with a box or package.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate  
70 corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan of a prepared blank of my improved combined lace and liner. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the lace and liner shown in Fig. 1 folded for placing in position in a  
75 box or package, and also a transparent paper beneath the lace. Fig. 3 is a perspective view, with parts broken away to exhibit other parts, of a packing-box with top or cover removed, with the combined continuous lace and liner  
80 in position therein. Fig. 4 is a plan of a box, with cover removed, packed according to my method, with a continuous lace and liner.

As shown in the drawings, the lace A and liner B are continuous, joined together, com-  
85 bined, formed at one and the same time from one piece of material—different parts of one whole.

In the continuous combined lace and liner shown in Fig. 1 no cuts are made in the blank,  
90 and it is designed to be folded along the dotted line *d d'* and *f f*, respectively, to shape it for placing in or upon a box or package, the lines *d d'* forming the salient angles or folds and the lines *f f* the re-entering angles or  
95 folds. Instead of folding the corners in this manner they may be cut with a straight cut on the lines *f f* and the blank then folded in line with the dotted lines *d d'*, with the extremities of the lower sides set inside or out-  
100 side of the shorter end pieces when the said combined lace and liner is folded to be placed in a box or package.

The blanks hereinbefore alluded to are de-



signed for rectangular boxes or packages. Those adapted for boxes or packages of other shapes differ from the preceding ones only in shape and the manner of folding, and all or  
 5 any of them may be folded by hand or by machine, and the lace portion may be designed and ornamented in any desired fashion and may exhibit a central opening, as in the cases  
 10 herein shown, before being folded for use, or may simply have perforations made about the intended central opening, so that the center piece inclosed by such perforations may  
 15 easily be torn out and removed at any time after the box is opened for exhibition of its contents.

It is obvious that a box or package supplied or combined with this lace and liner can only be filled from the bottom, because when in place the lace, being continuous, without  
 20 break or open joints or corners, cannot be turned back, as can all other box-laces in use, to admit the introduction of the goods at the top.

The preferred method of using this combined lace and liner, or lace alone, if it be used as such, is to take a box or package from which the bottom has been removed, then turn it upside down on some support and introduce or apply the lace and liner, folded, as indicated, in or about the mouth or top of the  
 30 box or package, with the lace portion lying flat, and with the plain edge or liner portion reaching wholly or partly up against the box body or neck, and, if desirable, I secure the combined  
 35 lace and liner in place with gum applied between the liner and box or package, or leave it to be retained in place by the pressure of the goods packed. Then, preferably, I next place a protecting-sheet of transparent or  
 40 other paper or material, as indicated at D, Fig. 2, upon the lace, and then carefully arrange thereon the top layer of the goods to be packed, or, if the paper D is not used, then upon the lace and its support. Proceeding,  
 45 I fill the box or package and adjust the contents, if necessary, and then fix the package-bottom in place. Now when the box or package is turned right side up, as shown in Fig. 4, it will be seen that not only is the top layer  
 50 of the goods (indicated in Fig. 4) arranged with perfect regularity and evenness, but that the lace and protection-sheet D, if the latter has been used, are smooth, unsoiled, and undisturbed, and that the opened package presents  
 55 a most inviting appearance, and it will be found that neither the lace nor the protecting-sheet, if used, can be removed and restored in place without distortion or rumpling, and that they will naturally remain in  
 60 position and protect the contents of the open package from dust and atmospheric influences and from meddling fingers.

It will be seen, too, that when this lace and liner is combined with a box or package the  
 65 articles packed therein cannot be removed without tearing the lace at the corners or elsewhere, so that when a consumer purchases

confectionery, for instance, contained in a box provided with my lace and liner, he is sure that the contents are the same as when the  
 70 box was sent from the manufacturer, and that it has not been filled with inferior confectionery of some other manufacturer of lower reputation, which has been substituted for the original contents, and if any of the contents  
 75 have been removed he can instantly detect the fact. These results cannot be assured by any other lace or liner in use.

In manufacturing or preparing for sale these improved packages—*i. e.*, this lace and liner  
 80 in combination with a box or package for containing goods—the combined lace and liner, or the “plain-edged lace,” as it may be technically termed, may be either simply fitted or  
 85 securely gummed in place on the body or neck of the box or package, or the combined lace and liner, either unfolded or folded for immediate application, may be made up separate from the boxes in suitable bundles for  
 90 transportation, to be used by those who pack confections, &c., according to my method, patented May 26, 1886.

It is obvious from what has been said above that the depth of the box or package relative to the width or the combined continuous lace  
 95 and liner applied thereto, or the width of the liner part relative to the depth of the box or package, will determine whether the object of my invention be technically called a “combined continuous lace and liner,” or a “con-  
 100 tinuous lace with a plain edge or border,” and that this technical difference cannot be determined until the article herein described is combined with or applied to a box or package; hence I endeavor in my claims, as well as in  
 105 my specification, to clearly set forth my invention.

While freely admitting the probability that paper has been cut into all possible shapes and forms, and that none of them, as such,  
 110 is patentable, I am not aware that combined continuous laces and liners, as shown, have ever been used for or applied to the purposes for which these are designed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim  
 115 as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a box or package, of a combined continuous lace and liner, and an auxiliary protecting-sheet of paper or other material, arranged within said box or pack-  
 120 age, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a combined continuous lace and liner, substantially as herein shown and described, made without  
 125 break or open joint from a single piece of paper or other suitable material, and adapted for use in boxes or packages that are packed from the bottom, as set forth.

3. A liner for boxes in one piece, having a  
 130 central opening bordered with lace-work, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with a box or package, of a sheet of lace in one piece with central

opening, and being continuous with a border or edge of sufficient depth for attachment to a box or package, substantially as set forth.

5 5. The combination, with a box or package, of a combined continuous lace and liner whose central opening is bordered by the lace portion, and whose liner portion is of sufficient depth to wholly or partially line a box or package, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I do have hereunto set my hand, in the presence of two witnesses, this 19th day of March, 1887.

JOHN R. STOUT.

Witnesses:

C. AUGUSTUS HAVILAND,  
GEO. W. STOUT.